Case 1:22-cv-10999-PGG-JLC Document 34

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JUSTIN WASHINGTON, JAMES CARTER, TIFFANY HAMMOND, GAVIN MOHRING, and ALCIDES CORTES, on behalf of themselves, FLSA Collective Plaintiffs, and the Class,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

MAVIS TIRE SUPPLY LLC d/b/a MAVIS DISCOUNT TIRE,

Defendant(s).

JAMES L. COTT, U.S.M.J.

DOCUMENT
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#### STIPULATED CONFIDENTIALITYAGREEMENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER

22 Civ. 10999 (PGG)

WHEREAS, all the parties to this action (collectively the "Parties" and individually a "Party") request that this Court issue a protective order pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) to protect the confidentiality of nonpublic and competitively sensitive information that they may need to disclose in connection with discovery in this action;

WHEREAS, the Parties, through counsel, agree to the following terms; and WHEREAS, this Court finds good cause exists for issuance of an appropriately tailored confidentiality order governing the pretrial phase of this action,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that any person subject to this Order – including without limitation the Parties to this action (including their respective corporate parents, successors, and assigns), their representatives, agents, experts and consultants, all third parties providing discovery in this action, and all other interested persons with actual or constructive notice of this Order — will adhere to the following terms, upon pain of contempt:

1. With respect to "Discovery Material" (i.e., information of any kind produced or disclosed in the course of discovery in this action) that a person has designated as

"Confidential" pursuant to this Order, no person subject to this Order may disclose such Confidential Discovery Material to anyone else except as this Order expressly permits:

- 2. The Party or person producing or disclosing Discovery Material ("Producing Party") may designate as Confidential only the portion of such material that it reasonably and in good faith believes consists of:
  - (a) previously non-disclosed financial information (including without limitation profitability reports or estimates, percentage fees, design fees, royalty rates, minimum guarantee payments, sales reports, and sale margins);
  - (b) previously non-disclosed material relating to ownership or control of any non-public company;
  - (c) previously non-disclosed business plans, product-development information,or marketing plans;
  - (d) any information of a personal or intimate nature regarding any individual; or
  - (e) any other category of information this Court subsequently affords confidential status.
- 3. With respect to the Confidential portion of any Discovery Material other than deposition transcripts and exhibits, the Producing Party or its counsel may designate such portion as "Confidential" by: (a) stamping or otherwise clearly marking as "Confidential" the protected portion in a manner that will not interfere with legibility or audibility; and (b) producing for future public use another copy of said Discovery Material with the confidential information redacted.

- 4. A Producing Party or its counsel may designate deposition exhibits or portions of deposition transcripts as Confidential Discovery Material either by: (a) indicating on the record during the deposition that a question calls for Confidential information, in which case the reporter will bind the transcript of the designated testimony in a separate volume and mark it as "Confidential Information Governed by Protective Order;" or (b) notifying the reporter and all counsel of record, in writing, within 30 days after a deposition has concluded, of the specific pages and lines of the transcript that are to be designated "Confidential," in which case all counsel receiving the transcript will be responsible for marking the copies of the designated transcript in their possession or under their control as directed by the Producing Party or that person's counsel. During the 30-day period following a deposition, all Parties will treat the entire deposition transcript as if it had been designated Confidential.
- 5. If at any time before the trial of this action a Producing Party realizes that it should have designated as Confidential some portion(s) of Discovery Material that it previously produced without limitation, the Producing Party may so designate such material by so apprising all prior recipients in writing. Thereafter, this Court and all persons subject to this Order will treat such designated portion(s) of the Discovery Material as Confidential.
- 6. Nothing contained in this Order will be construed as: (a) a waiver by a Party or person of its right to object to any discovery request; (b) a waiver of any privilege or protection; or (c) a ruling regarding the admissibility at trial of any document, testimony, or other evidence.
- 7. Where a Producing Party has designated Discovery Material as Confidential, other persons subject to this Order may disclose such information only to the following persons:

- (a) the Parties to this action, their insurers, and counsel to their insurers;
- (b) counsel retained specifically for this action, including any paralegal, clerical, or other assistant that such outside counsel employs and assigns to this matter;
- outside vendors or service providers (such as copy-service providers and document-management consultants) that counsel hire and assign to this matter;
- (d) any mediator or arbitrator that the Parties engage in this matter or that this
   Court appoints, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure
   Agreement in the form annexed as an Exhibit hereto;
- (e) as to any document, its author, its addressee, and any other person indicated on the face of the document as having received a copy;
- (f) any witness who counsel for a Party in good faith believes may be called to testify at trial or deposition in this action, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as an Exhibit hereto;
- (g) any person a Party retains to serve as an expert witness or otherwise provide specialized advice to counsel in connection with this action, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as an Exhibit hereto;
- (h) stenographers engaged to transcribe depositions the Parties conduct in this action; and

- (i) this Court, including any appellate court, its support personnel, and court reporters.
- 8. Before disclosing any Confidential Discovery Material to any person referred to in subparagraphs 7(d), 7(f), or 7(g) above, counsel must provide a copy of this Order to such person, who must sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as an Exhibit hereto stating that he or she has read this Order and agrees to be bound by its terms. Said counsel must retain each signed Non-Disclosure Agreement, hold it in escrow, and produce it to opposing counsel either before such person is permitted to testify (at deposition or trial) or at the conclusion of the case, whichever comes first.
- 9. In accordance with paragraph 2 of this Court's Individual Practices, any party filing documents under seal must simultaneously file with the Court a letter brief and supporting declaration justifying on a particularized basis the continued sealing of such documents. The parties should be aware that the Court will unseal documents if it is unable to make "specific, on the record findings . . . demonstrating that closure is essential to preserve higher values and is narrowly tailored to serve that interest." <u>Lugosch v. Pyramid Co. of Onondaga</u>, 435 F.3d 110, 120 (2d Cir. 2006).
- 10. The Court also retains discretion whether to afford confidential treatment to any Discovery Material designated as Confidential and submitted to the Court in connection with any motion, application, or proceeding that may result in an order and/or decision by the Court. All persons are hereby placed on notice that the Court is unlikely to seal or otherwise afford confidential treatment to any Discovery Material introduced in evidence at trial, even if such material has previously been sealed or designated as Confidential.

- 11. In filing Confidential Discovery Material with this Court, or filing portions of any pleadings, motions, or other papers that disclose such Confidential Discovery Material ("Confidential Court Submission"), the Parties shall publicly file a redacted copy of the Confidential Court Submission via the Electronic Case Filing System. The Parties shall file an unredacted copy of the Confidential Court Submission under seal with the Clerk of this Court, and the Parties shall serve this Court and opposing counsel with unredacted courtesy copies of the Confidential Court Submission.
- 12. Any Party who objects to any designation of confidentiality may at any time before the trial of this action serve upon counsel for the Producing Party a written notice stating with particularity the grounds of the objection. If the Parties cannot reach agreement promptly, counsel for all affected Parties will address their dispute to this Court in accordance with paragraph 4(E) of this Court's Individual Practices.
- 13. Any Party who requests additional limits on disclosure (such as "attorneys' eyes only" in extraordinary circumstances), may at any time before the trial of this action serve upon counsel for the recipient Parties a written notice stating with particularity the grounds of the request. If the Parties cannot reach agreement promptly, counsel for all affected Parties will address their dispute to this Court in accordance with paragraph 4(E) of this Court's Individual Practices.
- 14. Recipients of Confidential Discovery Material under this Order may use such material solely for the prosecution and defense of this action and any appeals thereto, and not for any business, commercial, or competitive purpose or in any other litigation proceeding. Nothing contained in this Order, however, will affect or restrict the rights of any Party with respect to its own documents or information produced in this action.

- Confidential Discovery Material in its possession in response to a lawful subpoena or other compulsory process, or if required to produce by law or by any government agency having jurisdiction, provided that such Party gives written notice to the Producing Party as soon as reasonably possible, and if permitted by the time allowed under the request, at least 10 days before any disclosure. Upon receiving such notice, the Producing Party will bear the burden to oppose compliance with the subpoena, other compulsory process, or other legal notice if the Producing Party deems it appropriate to do so.
- 16. Each person who has access to Discovery Material designated as Confidential pursuant to this Order must take all due precautions to prevent the unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure of such material.
- 17. Within 60 days of the final disposition of this action including all appeals all recipients of Confidential Discovery Material must either return it including all copies thereof to the Producing Party, or, upon permission of the Producing Party, destroy such material including all copies thereof. In either event, by the 60-day deadline, the recipient must certify its return or destruction by submitting a written certification to the Producing Party that affirms that it has not retained any copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries, or other forms of reproducing or capturing any of the Confidential Discovery Material. Notwithstanding this provision, the attorneys that the Parties have specifically retained for this action may retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, transcripts, expert reports, legal memoranda, correspondence, or attorney work product, even if such materials contain Confidential Discovery Material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute Confidential Discovery Material remain subject to this Order.

- 18. This Order will survive the termination of the litigation and will continue to be binding upon all persons to whom Confidential Discovery Material is produced or disclosed.
- 19. This Court will retain jurisdiction over all persons subject to this Order to the extent necessary to enforce any obligations arising hereunder or to impose sanctions for any contempt thereof.

## NON-WAIVER "CLAWBACK" PROVISIONS AS TO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The inadvertent or unintentional disclosure by the Producing Party of information it believes should be designated as "Confidential," regardless of whether the information was so designated at the time of disclosure, shall not be deemed a waiver in whole or in part of a party's claim of confidentiality, either as to the specific information disclosed or as to any other information relating thereto or on the same or related subject matter. In order to be entitled to this protection, there shall be no requirement for the Producing Party to prove that it took reasonable steps to prevent disclosure, including, without limitation, proof that its efforts to review for confidential information or documents were reasonable. Information inadvertently or unintentionally disclosed without designation, or designated late, may be designated retroactively by providing written notice of the designation to the Receiving Party. Any disclosures made before such late designation shall be considered as legal disclosures. However, reasonable efforts shall be made by the Receiving Party after late designation to recover any documents, things, or testimony transcripts containing the information of which disclosure would have been improper had timely designation been made. Moreover, after late designation, the parties shall treat the subject matter as if timely designated except to the extent that disclosures before late designation have occurred.

# NON-WAIVER "CLAWBACK" PROVISIONS AS TO PRIVILEGED INFORMATION

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The ESI and other documents reviewed by the parties for possible production as relevant and responsive might include information protected from disclosure as "privileged" and not subject to discovery under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B), Federal Rule of Evidence 502, and/or another applicable source of law ("Privileged Material"). The Privileged Materials include, but are not limited to, attorney-client communications and work product. In view of the volume of ESI that the Parties anticipate will be involved in this case, a party may inadvertently produce and disclose privileged ESI despite its reasonable, best efforts to conduct a thorough pre-production review of all ESI and other documents. For this reason, the parties agree as follows:

- a. The inadvertent disclosure of any ESI or document which is subject to a legitimate claim that the ESI or document should have been withheld from disclosure as Privileged Material shall NOT waive any privilege or other applicable protective doctrine for that ESI or paper record or for the subject matter of the inadvertently disclosed document if the Producing Party, upon becoming aware of the disclosure, promptly requests its return. The inadvertent disclosure also shall not estop that party or the privilege holder from designating the information or document as attorney-client privileged or subject to the work product doctrine or any other legally-recognizable privilege at a later date. In order to be entitled to this protection, there shall be no requirement for the Producing Party to prove that it took reasonable steps to prevent disclosure, including, without limitation, proof that its efforts to review for privileged or confidential information or documents were reasonable.
- b. Except in the event that the Receiving Party disputes the claim, any ESI or document that the Producing Party deems to contain inadvertently disclosed Privileged Material shall be, upon written request, promptly returned to the Producing Party or destroyed at the Producing Party's option. This includes all copies, electronic or otherwise, of any such information. In the event that the Producing Party requests destruction, the Receiving Party shall provide written certification of

compliance within thirty (30) days of such written request.

- c. In the event that the Receiving Party disputes the Producing Party's claim as to the protected nature of the inadvertently disclosed material, a single set of copies may be sequestered and retained by and under the control of Receiving Party for the sole purpose of seeking court determination of the issue, as specified by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). The Receiving Party shall promptly present the information to the Court under seal for a determination of the claim. If the Receiving Party disclosed the information before being notified, it must take reasonable steps to retrieve it. The Producing Party must preserve the information until the claim is resolved.
- d. If the Receiving Party receives a document or ESI file that it in good faith believes is subject to a legally recognizable privilege or evidentiary protection, then the Receiving Party shall: (1) refrain from further review of the document or ESI once the privileged nature of the document or ESI is ascertained; (2) promptly notify the Producing Party in writing that it has discovered documents or ESI believed to be Privileged Material; (3) specifically identify the documents or ESI by Bates type control number range or hash value range; and (4) where possible, return, sequester, or destroy all copies of such documents and ESI, along with any notes, abstracts or compilations of the content thereof, within five (5) days of discovery by the Receiving Party. Where such documents or ESI cannot be destroyed or separated, they shall not be reviewed, disclosed, or otherwise used by the Receiving Party. Notwithstanding, the Receiving Party is under no obligation to search or review Producing Party's documents or ESI to identify potentially privileged or work product protected documents or ESI.
- e. Any such Privileged Material inadvertently disclosed by the Producing Party to the Receiving Party, shall be and remain the property of the Producing Party.

### SO STIPULATED AND AGREED.

/s/ CK Lee	/s/ Jonathan M. Kozak

Dated: 6/22/23 Dated: 6/22/23

Dated: New York, New York

June 23, 2023

SO ORDERED.

JAMES L. COTT

United States Magistrate Judge

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JUSTIN WASHINGTON, JAMES CARTER, TIFFANY HAMMOND, GAVIN MOHRING, and ALCIDES CORTES, on behalf of themselves, FLSA Collective Plaintiffs, and the Class,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

MAVIS TIRE SUPPLY LLC d/b/a MAVIS DISCOUNT TIRE, Defendant(s).

## $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{NON-DISCLOSURE} \\ \underline{\textbf{AGREEMENT}} \end{array}$

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I,, acknowledge that I have read and
understand the Protective Order in this action governing the non-disclosure of those portions of
Discovery Material that have been designated as Confidential. I agree that I will not disclose such
Confidential Discovery Material to anyone other than for purposes of this litigation and that at the
conclusion of the litigation I will return all discovery information to the Party or attorney from
whom I received it. By acknowledging these obligations under the Protective Order, I understand
that I am submitting myself to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern
District of New York for the purpose of any issue or dispute arising hereunder and that my willful
violation of any term of the Protective Order could subject me to punishment for contempt of
Court.
Dated: